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# **NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY ANTI-TERRORISM SUMMARY**



The North Dakota Open Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

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### **NORTH DAKOTA**

**(North Dakota) Mandan Tesoro refinery recalls jet fuel.** Tesoro Corp. stated January 14 that it recalled jet fuel January 9-10 that was produced at its refinery in Mandan because it did not meet aviation specifications, delaying flights at Theodore Roosevelt Regional Airport and Bismarck Municipal Airport January 9.  
<http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/news/north-dakota/3655445-mandan-tesoro-refinery-recalls-jet-fuel>

**(North Dakota) Nearly 3M gallons of brine spill; ND oil boom's largest leak.** North Dakota officials reported January 21 that nearly 3 million gallons of saltwater generated by oil drilling spilled from a Summit Midstream Partners LLC-owned pipeline near Williston January 6, and leaked into Blacktail Creek, Little Muddy Creek, and possibly the Missouri River. Cleanup and monitoring continued while investigators worked to determine the cause of the rupture.  
[http://bismarcktribune.com/bakken/nearly-m-gallons-of-brine-spill-nd-oil-boom-s/article\\_2a3b4732-3ca4-591f-ab2f-dd42da3c72d4.html](http://bismarcktribune.com/bakken/nearly-m-gallons-of-brine-spill-nd-oil-boom-s/article_2a3b4732-3ca4-591f-ab2f-dd42da3c72d4.html)

**(North Dakota) Company says 260-barrel oil spill caused by vandalism.** Petro-Hunt L.L.C. reported January 19 that a 260-barrel oil spill at an oil well site near Watford City was due to vandalism after an individual came on site, broke the seals on the tank valves, and opened them. Authorities are investigating the incident after the oil was contained and recovered at the site.  
<http://www.greenwichtime.com/business/energy/article/Company-says-260-barrel-oil-spill-caused-by-6025628.php>

**(North Dakota) Man trapped in beans up to chest in grain bin rescued.** Rescue crews used special equipment January 15 to safely extract a man who was trapped in a grain bin at Kensal Farmers Elevator Co., in Stutsman County. Authorities are investigating the incident and are working to determine the identity of the individual and why he was in the bin.  
<http://www.jamestownsun.com/news/state/3657002-man-trapped-beans-chest-grain-bin-rescued>

**(North Dakota) Death Toll Continues to Climb This Flu Season.** The number of flu cases continues to climb across North Dakota and officials say a bad vaccine match could be to blame. The North Dakota Department of Health has now

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confirmed 32 flu-related deaths, and the number of Influenza cases is well above average. <http://www.kxnet.com/story/27936795/death-toll-continues-to-climb-this-flu-season>

### **REGIONAL**

**(North Dakota, Minnesota) Flood chances are low in Red River Basin, weather service says.** The National Weather Service has issued its first spring flood forecast for the Red River Basin, and it's as mild as the winter weather. The weather service says the flood risk is markedly low due to dry soils, well below-normal snowpack and moisture, and low stream flows. [http://www.twincities.com/nation/ci\\_27379622/flood-chances-are-low-red-river-basin-weather](http://www.twincities.com/nation/ci_27379622/flood-chances-are-low-red-river-basin-weather)

**(Montana) Cancer-causing agent detected in water after pipeline spill.** The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported January 19 that elevated levels of benzene were found in water samples from a treatment plant that serves approximately 6,000 people in the community of Glendive, Montana, after 50,000 gallons of oil spilled from the Bridger Pipeline Co.-owned Poplar pipeline into the Yellowstone River January 17. Operations at the water treatment plant were halted indefinitely. <http://news.yahoo.com/cancer-causing-agent-detected-water-pipeline-spill-143731937.html>

**(Washington) New outbreak of avian flu found in Washington state.** A third outbreak of avian flu was detected in Washington prompting authorities to warn bird owners January 20 to keep their flocks away from migratory birds and to report sick birds or unusual bird deaths. About 120 backyard chickens, geese, and ducks in Clallam County were culled by agriculture officials January 18 due to confirmed infections of the highly pathogenic H5N2 strain of avian flu, while authorities reported that the virus has not been detected in commercial poultry and there was no immediate public health concern. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/01/20/us-usa-washington-bird-flu-idUSKBN0KT2FU20150120>

**(Minnesota) Teens enter guilty plea in Waseca bomb cases.** Two teens from Waseca pleaded guilty the week of January 5 in connection to allegedly plotting to kill the family of one of the teens before attacking the Waseca Junior/Senior High

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School with firearms and homemade explosives. The pair detonated several small test bombs around the county damaging school equipment in 2014.

[http://www.mankatofreepress.com/news/local\\_news/teens-enter-guilty-plea-in-waseca-bomb-cases/article\\_0371d3d4-adc9-5114-8434-8ffdeb4044e6.html](http://www.mankatofreepress.com/news/local_news/teens-enter-guilty-plea-in-waseca-bomb-cases/article_0371d3d4-adc9-5114-8434-8ffdeb4044e6.html)

### **NATIONAL**

**(National)** 2+ million US cars can be hacked remotely, researchers claim. A researcher with Digital Bond Labs presented a vulnerability that he identified at the S4 conference in Miami when he reverse-engineered the Snapshot tracking dongle offered by Progressive Insurance that is currently in use in over 2 million vehicles across the U.S. that could allow the attacker to control some of the core functions of a car by compromising its on-board system via Snapshot remotely due to minimal security in the firmware. <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=17840>

**(Ohio)** FBI: Man planned to bomb US Capitol, kill officials. The FBI arrested and charged an Ohio man January 14 after his Twitter posts sympathizing with Islamic terrorists led to an undercover operation where he attempted to convince an FBI informant that they should blow up the U.S. Capitol and kill government officials by sharing his plans for the plot. A Cincinnati-area resident was also charged during the week of January 12 for threatening to murder a U.S. government representative. <http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/general-news/20150115/fbi-man-planned-to-bomb-us-capitol-kill-officials>

### **INTERNATIONAL**

**(International)** Teen arrested for last year's DDoS attack on PSN and Xbox networks. Authorities in the U.K. in cooperation with the FBI arrested a man January 16 for allegedly participating in distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks against the Sony Playstation and Microsoft Xbox gaming networks during 2014. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Teen-Arrested-for-Last-Year-s-DDoS-Attack-on-PSN-and-Xbox-Networks-470257.shtml>

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## **BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY**

**(International)** Minnesota woman charged in \$2M fake death insurance scam. A Plymouth, Minnesota woman and her son were charged January 13 for allegedly conspiring with the woman's ex-husband to fake the ex-husband's death in the country of Moldova, fraudulently collecting \$2 million in life insurance, and transferring over \$1.5 million of the money to accounts in Moldova and Switzerland. <http://www.news8000.com/news/minnesota-woman-charged-in-2m-fake-death-insurance-scam/30689236>

## **CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR**

**(Florida)** Two dead after small plane crashes into hazardous chemical warehouse. A small plane that departed from a Lakeland Regional Airport flight school January 22 crashed into the Key Safety Systems Inflator Technical Center facility in Lakeland that is used as a chemical storage warehouse. HAZMAT crews and firefighters worked to keep the chemicals wet due to the risk of explosion while the fire was allowed to burn until it was deemed safe for firefighters to enter. <http://tbtpics.tampabay.com/news/publicsafety/small-plane-crashes-into-lakeland-warehouse/2214705>

## **COMMERCIAL FACILITIES**

**(Tennessee)** Cancellations follow news of norovirus at Nashville hotel. A norovirus outbreak at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville sickened more than 350 Astellas Pharma US employees and guests that attended a conference at the hotel during the week of January 12, prompting the company to cancel the remainder of its meetings. The Nashville Metro Public Health Department confirmed three cases of norovirus and is investigating to determine the scope of the outbreak. [http://www.sunherald.com/2015/01/21/6029704\\_cancellations-follow-news-of-norovirus.html](http://www.sunherald.com/2015/01/21/6029704_cancellations-follow-news-of-norovirus.html)

## **COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR**

**(National)** Viacom, ESPN hit with \$1.4M FCC fine for using warning tones while promoting 'Olympus Has Fallen'. The U.S. Federal Communications Commission

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issued a \$1.12 million fine against Viacom and a \$280,000 fine against ESPN January 20 for using Emergency Alert System warning tones for non-emergency purposes while promoting a movie on cable networks in 2013.

<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/politics/fcc-fines-viacom-espn-warning-tones-promoting-film-article-1.2086034>

### **CRITICAL MANUFACTURING**

**(International)** **Tesla Model S hacked to start without key.** Qihoo 360 reported a vulnerability in the Tesla Model S discovered during a demonstration at the SyScan security conference in Beijing that could allow an attacker to unlock the vehicle, start the engine, and drive away with the vehicle by intercepting the communication between the key fob and the car. Tesla officials confirmed the flaw and stated that a fix would be released to close the vulnerability.

<http://news.softpedia.com/news/Tesla-Model-S-Hacked-to-Start-Without-Key-470827.shtml>

**(National)** **U.S. opens probe into 50,000 2015 Jeep Cherokee SUVs.** The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced January 16 that it is opening an investigation into 50,000 model year 2015 Jeep Cherokee vehicles prompted by a fire that broke out in a new vehicle January 4 in California which quickly consumed the vehicle and a January 5 complaint that noted smoke coming from under the hood.

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/01/16/us->

### **DEFENSE/ INDUSTRY BASE SECTOR**

**Nothing Significant to Report**

### **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**(Indiana)** **ISP trooper's badge, weapons stolen from car.** Authorities are searching for a suspect who stole a firearm and police badge from an Indiana State Police trooper's car during a string of vehicle break-ins in Columbus, Indiana, January 21. <http://www.theindychannel.com/news/local-news/isp-troopers-badge-weapon-stolen-from-car>

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### **ENERGY**

**(National) New federal rule seeks to reduce machine-related coal deaths.** The U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration announced that a new federal rule was issued January 13 requiring all U.S. mines to use sensors that can halt digging machines if miners get too close, in order to prevent workers from getting crushed. Operators must retrofit continuous mining machines with the detectors and all newly built continuous miners must include the detectors by November 16. <http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/new-federal-rule-seeks-to-reduce-machine-related-coal-deaths/ar-AA882cX>

**(Pennsylvania) Beaver County power plant cleaning up spill into creek.** The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection announced January 22 that as much as 4,000 gallons of a mixture of water and coal slurry leaked into Haden Run creek after a holding tank partially collapsed at the FirstEnergy Corp.-owned Bruce Mansfield coal-fired power plant in Beaver County January 21. Cleanup work was expected to be completed by January 23 and officials reported that there is no threat to the public or environmental impact. <http://triblive.com/business/headlines/7617090-74/plant-creek-coal>

**(Texas) Plant fire near Gregory sends fireballs high into the sky.** Authorities are assessing the total amount of damage and how long it will take before the Southcross Energy Natural Gas Plant near Gregory, Texas, will resume operations following an explosion at the plant January 20. Pipelines that provide gas to the facility were shut off and the fire burned itself out after several hours. <http://www.kristv.com/news/plant-fire-near-gregory-sends-fireballs-high-into-the-sky/>

### **FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

**(Minnesota) 19,000 turkeys lost in fire.** About 19,000 four-week old turkeys perished in a January 18 fire at a Jennie-O owned turkey barn in Todd County. The structure sustained major damage during the blaze. <http://www.lpleader.com/articles/2015/01/22/news/doc54c10c57b21d5325427461.txt>

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**(Indiana) E.P.D. and V.C.S.O. announce \$1.5M heavy equipment theft ring bust.** Evansville Police and the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office reported the arrest of 2 individuals accused of stealing and selling more than 70 pieces of farm equipment, including excavators, tractors, and hydraulic equipment, worth an estimated \$1.5 million. <http://www.tristatehomepage.com/story/d/story/epd-and-vcso-announce-15m-heavy-equipment-theft-ri/39786/1pa0spB3bkCObyj-glpBnQ>

### **GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)**

**(Pennsylvania) Consumer Alert: Stolen identities used by thieves in student loan scheme.** A Pennsylvania couple pleaded guilty in connection to a student loan scheme that defrauded the U.S. Department of Education out of more than \$270,000 and compromised the identities of over 200 people. The couple filed false financial applications with online universities using victim's personal identifiers in order to obtain the funds themselves. <http://www.wjla.com/articles/2015/01/consumer-alert-stolen-identities-used-by-thieves-in-student-loan-scheme-110804.html>

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**(International) Ransomware incidents on an upward trend, FBI warns.** The FBI issued an alert January 20 and warned computer users of a newer variant of the CryptoWall data encryption malware that infects computers and restricts users' access to files until a fee is paid and the files are unlocked. The malware has been spotted in the wild, featuring localized ransom messages and trying to connect to decryption services hidden in the Invisible Internet Project (I2P) network. <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Ransomware-Incidents-On-An-Upward-Trend-FBI-Warns-470683.shtml>

**(International) Hard-coded FTP credentials found in Schneider Electric SCADA Gateway.** Schneider Electric released an update to address 2 flaws for their ETG3000 FactoryCast HMI Gateway, which is used in manufacturing, energy, water, and other industries as a Web-based SCADA system that could allow unauthenticated remote access to the device's FTP server and configuration files.

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<http://threatpost.com/hard-coded-ftp-credentials-found-in-schneider-electric-scada-gateway/110565>

### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

**(Washington) Undisclosed superbug sickened dozens at Virginia Mason.** Virginia Mason Medical Center officials in Seattle stated that they overhauled their cleaning protocol for medical scopes after an outbreak of drug-resistant superbugs spread by contaminated specialized endoscopes infected at least 32 patients between 2012 and 2014. Authorities believe the bacterium was likely transferred from patient to patient after the devices were cleaned, but still harbored the germs.

[http://seattletimes.com/html/localnews/2025515506\\_endoscopeoutbreakxml.html](http://seattletimes.com/html/localnews/2025515506_endoscopeoutbreakxml.html)

**(Massachusetts) Boston doctor dies after hospital shooting; suspect dead.** A gunman died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound after shooting and killing a doctor at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston January 20. The suspect entered the hospital and asked to speak with the doctor prior to the shooting.

<http://www.cnn.com/2015/01/20/justice/boston-hospital-shooting/>

**(California) Several Disneyland workers diagnosed with measles.** Health officials confirmed January 20 that at least 5 Disneyland employees have been diagnosed with measles bringing the total number of cases in an outbreak tied to the amusement park to 53. Disneyland officials requested that any employees who had not been vaccinated or could not prove their immunity status take paid leave until their status is confirmed. <http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/several-disneyland-workers-diagnosed-with-measles/ar-AA8piqG>

### **TRANSPORTATION**

**(Nevada) Smoke alarm delays Allegiant flight to Electric City.** An Allegiant Air flight with 160 passengers headed from Las Vegas to Great Falls, Montana, returned to McCarran International Airport to make an emergency landing January 22 after a smoke alarm sounded once the plane took off. Airline officials stated that passengers were switched to a new aircraft while maintenance crews inspected the plane.

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<http://www.greatfallsribune.com/story/news/local/2015/01/22/smoke-alarm-delays-allegiant-flight-electric-city/22186089/>

**(New York) Police swarm JFK after alleged bomb threat directed at landing Delta flight.** An alleged bomb threat that was called in for a Delta Air Lines flight 468 landing at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York January 20 prompted officials to search two Delta planes sharing the same flight number, with one moved to a remote area of the airport to rescreen luggage for potential explosive devices. Both flights were cleared when nothing suspicious was found. <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2015/01/19/police-swarm-jfk-after-alleged-bomb-threat-directed-at-landing-delta-flight/>

### **WATER AND DAMS**

Nothing Significant to Report

### **NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS**

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: **North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center:** 866-885-8295(IN ND ONLY); Email: [ndslic@nd.gov](mailto:ndslic@nd.gov); Fax: 701-328-8175 **State Radio:** 800-472-2121; **Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI):** 701-328-5500; **North Dakota Highway Patrol:** 701-328-2455; **US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst:** 701-297-7400; **Bismarck FBI:** 701-223-4875; **Fargo FBI:** 701-232-7241.

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

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